



FACT SHEET

PREVENTION SERVICES BRANCH

Overview

The goal of the Prevention Services Branch (PSB) at the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) is to develop and maintain a comprehensive, statewide prevention system that averts and reduces problems resulting from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD). Prevention addresses availability, manufacturing, distribution, promotion, sale and individual use of ATOD and results in healthier, safer and stronger economic conditions for California residents. To achieve this goal and meet federal funding requirements, PSB works with counties to assist them in improving services, using the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) and employing evidence-based programs and practices which are data and outcomes driven. Funding comes primarily from the federal government and is allocated to the counties using a population-based formula. Prevention serves three populations that are based on the risk level of developing a substance use problem, as defined by the Institute of Medicine Continuum of Care:

- *Universal* prevention serves the general population.
- *Selective* prevention serves population subsets or groups at higher-than-average risk for substance use.
- *Indicated* prevention serves nondependent individuals already using or engaging in other high-risk behaviors to prevent problematic use.

Below are just a few of the various programs, projects and workgroups under PSB. For more information, visit [Prevention Programs](#) on ADP's website.

Governor's Prevention Advisory Council (GPAC)

The GPAC is chaired by the Director of ADP. GPAC members are appointed by the Governor and represent ADP and other state agencies involved with substance use prevention issues, funding, and/or program-level support. GPAC's purpose is to coordinate the State's strategic efforts to achieve measurable reductions in the incidence and prevalence of the inappropriate use of alcohol and other drugs. This is achieved by strategically working together on substance use prevention issues of common concern such as underage drinking, binge drinking, high-rate underage use, implementing evidence-based practices, screening and brief intervention, and institutionalizing the SPF statewide.

California Friday Night Live Partnership (CFNLP)

ADP contracts with the Tulare County Office of Education for the statewide technical assistance, training, and program support for all [Friday Night Live \(FNL\)](#) programs, which resulted in the formation of the CFNLP. Services provided to county FNL-affiliated programs include:

- An annual Youth Development survey to measure the effectiveness of the programs Administration of the peer-

review Member-in-Good-Standing Process

- Program design and development assistance
- Technical assistance and training to incorporate the youth development and FNL Mentor models
- Development and distribution of research materials on innovative youth programs □ Support youth involvement and leadership in all phases of program planning and implementation
- Identify new and existing cultural and geographically diverse youth organizations to work with the CFNLP to design new programs
- Use of web technology as a forum for youth, a resource for prevention information, and for FNL county coordinators to access programmatic information

Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant ([SPF SIG](#))

In October 2010, ADP was awarded the SPF SIG by SAMHSA, bringing to California approximately \$9.7 million over five years (\$1.94 million annually). The majority of this funding will go toward implementation of local programs. It is anticipated that evidence-based prevention services will be provided in approximately 12 to 15 communities in California.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities – Governor’s Program ([SDFSC](#))

ADP is responsible for administering the Governor’s portion of the federal SDFSC grant funding from the United States Department of Education. The Governor’s Program is designed to complement California Department of Education SDFSC funding by serving children and youth who are not normally served through state and local educational agencies, or who need special / additional services (such as

runaway and homeless youth, dropouts, foster youth, and children of substance abusing parents). The SDFSC State Grant was eliminated with the 2010 federal budget and all projects will end June 30, 2011. A cross-site evaluation of the SDFSC Governor’s Program is being implemented. Preliminary results indicate services are reaching the intended vulnerable youth. These youth are demonstrating significant reductions in substance use, increased perception of harm associated with use, and increased connection to positive adult role models. The final evaluation results will be available in August 2011.

Tobacco Sales to Minors ([The Synar Amendment](#))

The Synar Amendment requires states to pass and enforce laws that prohibit the sale of tobacco to individuals under 18 years of age. Briefly, the Synar federal regulations require California to:

- Achieve no more than a 20% rate of illegal tobacco sales to minors. (*The 2010 annual rate was 7.7%*).
- Draw a probability sample among all available retail outlets accessible to youth, and conduct annual, random, unannounced inspections. This percentage figure is used to establish whether the state is in compliance with the Synar Amendment.
- Determine strategies that would most appropriately meet the requirement of the law (i.e., licensing system, graduated penalties, cigarette vending machine ban, etc.)

Training and Technical Assistance

PSB offers technical assistance and training to counties and organizations to help reduce and prevent problems associated with ATOD. These services, provided free of charge, focus on specific populations and subject areas. Interested

organizations can obtain training and assistance via workshops, telephone or on-site consultation, referrals and resource materials. Visit www.ca-cpi.org for more information.

California Outcome Measurement Service for Prevention (CalOMS Pv)

[CalOMS Pv](#) is a web-based data collection service, funded with the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant, designed to track California's primary prevention service and activity data. CalOMS Pv is based on the five-step SPF. CalOMS Pv allows counties to: a) upload their county prevention strategic plan; b) track needs and resource assessment data; c) identify problem statements, goals and objectives; d) identify funding; e) report service activities; and, f) describe progress made toward meeting their goals and objectives. CalOMS Pv data is used for the SAPT Block Grant application.

Resource Center (RC)

The RC maintains a comprehensive collection of ATOD prevention and treatment information that is provided to California residents at no cost through Lending Services, Conferences, Information Services, Internet Services and a Clearinghouse.

- Lending Services – A collection of specialized ATOD reference sources including books, journals, reports and audiovisual materials. Access to ADP historical documents is via the CA State Library.
- Conferences – ATOD materials are provided for AOD-related conferences, events and workshops.
- Information Services – The RC has a toll-free non-crisis, non-emergency telephone number available for California residents needing ATOD

prevention and treatment information, and an email address that can be utilized as well. Individuals seeking treatment are referred to their county alcohol and drug program office.

- Internet Services – The RC's website offers ATOD information, listings of current publications and media, treatment facilities by county, and links to other sources of ATOD information.
- Clearinghouse – ATOD booklets, pamphlets, research papers, posters, technical manuals and other printed materials are available upon request to the general public. For additional information, contact the [Resource Center](#), at (800) 879-2772.